

Jessica Jalbert  
HB 5326

Legislative Testimony  
Public Health Committee

H.B. No 5326 - An act concerning compassionate aid in dying for terminally ill patients.

March 17, 2014

Jessica Jalbert

Members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Jessica Jalbert and I am a senior at St. Paul Catholic High School in Bristol. I am writing this letter in opposition to the proposed bill H.B. 5326 - An act concerning compassionate aid in dying for terminally ill patients.

I don't support this bill because I believe that there is sanctity in every human life, and that everyone should die a natural death. Suicide itself is a horrible and tragic reality and a common occurrence in this day in age especially. As society discourages suicide, it would be hypocritical to promote such a thing, even if it is to take away one's pain and misery. Those with mental illness or loss of hope in their lives that commit suicide are in pain as well...mentally. It is unfair to say that they shouldn't kill themselves yet make it legal and accessible for those with terminal illnesses. Many diagnoses have the ability to be wrong and it is very well possible that many people who will choose to take their life away could possibly survive their illness in the end anyway. It is not our right as humans to play the role of God and take away one's life...intervening in God's plan for that person. There is always hope for an individual, and many things are possible. We should follow the commandment that "thou shalt not kill" and not make exceptions.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Jalbert